

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 4, please amend the 2nd paragraph as follows:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view illustrating an embodiment of the ball screw according to the invention [[.]] ;and

On page 4, after the 2nd paragraph, please insert the following new paragraph:

Fig. 2 is a schematic illustration of two adjacent balls with a spacer disposed therebetween.

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~The invention provides a~~ A ball screw which is little subject to deterioration of operating characteristics and occurrence of wear, torque change, noise, vibration, etc. during operation due to stagnation or competition of balls. A The ball screw comprising includes a screw shaft having a helical thread groove formed on the outer surface thereof and a nut having a thread groove formed on the inner surface thereof corresponding to the thread groove on the screw shaft which engages with the screw shaft with the interposition of a number of balls rollably provided in a helical ball rolling path formed between the two thread grooves, and spacers between adjacent ones of said number of balls, wherein the variation of the total of the gap between said the balls and spacers during the rolling of the balls is smaller than 1/20 of the diameter of the ball.